



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA
Landings Administrative Complex
1980 Landings Blvd.
6:30 PM

October 6, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Chair convened the Tuesday, October 6, 2020 Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

- Caroline Zucker, Chair
- Shirley Brown, Vice Chair
- Jane Goodwin
- Eric Robinson
- Bridget Ziegler

1. PUBLIC NOTICE

Description

NOTICE:

THE PUBLIC CAN WATCH THIS BOARD MEETING BY VIEWING THE EDUCATION CHANNEL OR THE DISTRICT YOUTUBE CHANNEL OR LISTENING TO THE MEETING LIVE BY CALLING EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING TOLL FREE PHONE NUMBERS 1-(888) 475-4499 OR 1-(877) 853-5257, AND, WHEN PROMPTED USING THE ID NUMBER 532 549 747 OR IN PERSON, AND CAN OFFER PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON OR BY EMAILING COMMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS PublicComment@sarasotacountyschools.net.

THE EMAIL ADDRESS WILL BE OPEN TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH AND TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH. ALL EMAILS

RECEIVED BY 2:00 P.M. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH WILL BE PROVIDED TO BOARD MEMBERS IN ADVANCE OF THE 6:30 P.M. MEETING AND WILL BE POSTED ON THE SCHOOL BOARD'S WEBSITE ALONG WITH THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT THIS EMAIL ADDRESS WILL BE USED SOLELY FOR OBTAINING PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR THE BOARD MEETING AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES OR QUESTIONS. ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED WILL BE PUBLIC RECORDS. ANY PERSON INTERESTED IN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY CONTACT KATHY TOMKINS AT KATHY.TOMKINS@SARASOTACOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET.

PLEASE NOTE: PURSUANT TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICY, A FACE MASK MUST BE WORN WHILE IN ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING. A MASK SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED FOR PERSONS WHO PRESENT SCHOOL OFFICIALS WITH A CERTIFICATION FROM A LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT THE PERSON HAS A MEDICAL, PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL CONTRAINDICATION THAT PREVENTS THE PERSON FROM BEING ABLE TO SAFELY WEAR A FACE MASK. IF A PERSON HAS A MEDICAL CERTIFICATION THAT HE/SHE CANNOT WEAR A FACE MASK, THE PERSON SHALL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A FACE SHIELD UNLESS THE PERSON ALSO HAS A CERTIFICATION FROM A LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT HE/SHE HAS A MEDICAL, PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL CONTRAINDICATION THAT PREVENTS THE PERSON FROM ALSO BEING ABLE TO SAFELY WEAR A FACE SHIELD.

Recommendation

Financial Impact:

Contact:

Flag Salute

2. FLAG SALUTE

Description

Flag Salute

Student Representative

Recommendation

Financial Impact:

Contact:

Flag Salute: North Port High School Navy JROTC

Cadets:

- Aiden Borchardt - C/P03
- Sofia Kiddy - C/P01
- Emma Stevanus - C/P03
- McKenna Watkins - C/P02

Student Representative: Erica Schmitt, NPHS

Special Presentations/Moments of Pride

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/MOMENTS OF PRIDE

Description

Principal Introductions

- Chris Renouf - Tara Spielman, Taylor Ranch Elementary School
- Steve Cantees - Ryan Chase, Brookside Middle School

Resolution - *Disability History and Awareness Weeks*, Sonia Figaredo-Alberts

Resolution - *LGBTQIA+ History Month*

Recommendation

Financial Impact:

Contact:

Superintendents Report

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Description

Recommendation

Financial Impact:

Contact:

ASPLEN

Superintendent's Report:

- Sarasota County School District has been designated as an Academically High Performing School District for 2018-2019.
- Roger Siegel has been recognized as an Advanced Placement Daily Instructor for AP Physics C (Electricity and Magnetism).
- Tunde Olson recognized as Tuttle Elementary and Sarasota County Literacy Teacher of the Year.
- World Mental Health Day is October 10th. The District has a crisis text line which is free and confidential, open 24 hrs./day all week, through a generous grant from the Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation.
- National School Bus Safety Week is October 19-23. Our bus drivers cover 230 routes daily and log around 15,000,000 miles per year.
- First iReady diagnostic to be discussed at the November work session.
- Merv 13 a/c filters are being installed.
- Mask Policy will be discussed at the October 20th work session.
- Thank you for the warm welcome to the District!

Hearing of Citizens

5. HEARING OF CITIZENS

Description

N/A

Recommendation

N/A

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

ASPLEN

Hearing of Citizens:

- Teresa DeWitt
- Meggan McCall
- John Wilson
- Zaire Kekahuna
- Nelson Philip Sims
- Amy Grotz

- Anastasia Karas
- Benjamin Becker
- Ashley Cote
- David
- Kristin Brook
- Gayle Flick
- Caprill Hembree
- Amy Cook
- Octavio Santecchia
- Gretchen Lovewell
- Bryan Ellis
- Carley Sullivan
- Steele Logan
- Mark Mason
- Jennifer Sholi
- Mallick Sholi
- Emelina Gomez
- Melissa Bakondy
- Debra Barkley
- Jeremy Stillwagner Sr.
- Sebastian Martinez
- Julien Loucks
- Erin Brunner
- Meghan Cleary
- Benjamin Casey
- Nabil Sharife
- Darian Nigro
- Nora Ngo Mitchell
- Maija Boelling
- Sarah Parker
- Rhana Bazzini
- Jimi DePriest
- Amelia King
- Catherine Carrigan
- Bear Mancinni
- Lisa Singeisen
- Christopher Medrano-Beruman
- Jeff Eckert
- Chris Moon
- Amanda Laforge
- Roberto Avguedas
- Alaina Martinez
- Jenna Holmes

- Mary Holmes

Craig Channing

Before you vote at the next school board meeting about the BLM I want to point your attention to this video. I realize most of you won't watch it as you really are not interested in the truth of what BLM is and what it supports, but you need to know this is not an opinion piece, this is video of BLM marching in the streets.

<https://www.facebook.com/301874613743950/posts/693569007907840/?vh=e&extid=0>

This is the group you are promoting. This is the type of people you are trying to teach our kids about. This is not even remotely within the purview of the school system and these people are not at all worth teaching or even talking about.

There is no question that all people are equal and all lives matter but the BLM movement has nothing to do with that. BLM is opening and admittedly Marxist and Anti-American.

It is not now, nor has it ever been, the responsibility of the schools to teach social issues to our children. That is not the purpose of a school. Why do you feel that it is OK to promote any agenda in school? You refuse to let the schools teach the values of a Christian life and the teachings of Jesus Christ but you celebrate and promote the hatred of the very same person!

It is so sad that this is what you have decided to spend your time debating when there are so many actual school issues that need to be addressed.

You have lost your way. You, as a board, are lost. I pray that you will rediscover the reasons you were elected and get back to serving our community and schools and quit pushing political agendas.

Gabrielle Lennon

Please teach Black Lives Matter in Sarasota schools. The Brain-Pop video in question is wonderful. It educates about historical facts in a gentle and honest way. I feel that it is vital for students of all ages to learn about the movement against racism and police brutality, and everything that has been going on in the United States regarding race. These are historical facts that have bearing on so much at present. My children have white skin, and I want them to learn all about these issues and facts. When parts of history

and current events (and where history and current events intersect) are hidden or whitewashed, everyone loses. We owe it also to our students with black skin to teach about these issues -- and to our students with other skin colors, including white. Not doing so is yet another act of violence.

Kaitlin Johnstone

I am a white educator in the Sarasota County Schools. I preface my email this way because it is important for you all to understand the work that I have done to recognize and deconstruct my own privilege as it relates to the color of my skin. I also understand that word can be quite scary for someone who hasn't dug deep into the history of race and how that relates to systemic oppression within our institutions. I work at Lakeview Elementary, a predominantly white school. However, I teach my students accurate history. I use books by Black authors. I teach Black history year round as opposed to simply in February (which many teachers don't even do that and it is dangerous. Recently, I was asked...

"If you care so much about Black lives, why do you teach white kids?"

It may sound crazy but I am so grateful I was asked this question the other day. I stayed up thinking about the perfectly crafted answer, which ultimately led to a response revolving around me wanting white children to grow up believing Black Lives Matter, are valued, and are worthy. However, as I sit here today I need to go into further detail as to why I teach white children. I need more people to hear what I have to say. Black children do not need white women to be their saviors. There are tremendous amounts of damage being done by white women who uphold this belief. However, teaching white children social justice could save lives. Allow me to elaborate...

Last October upon completing center time, all my students made their way over to the carpet for our favorite part of the day, Social Studies. This day was important. While other teachers around the country, and some even within my school, were teaching 'in 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue', my kindergarteners and I were learning about Indigenous People's Day. If we continue white washing history, white children will continue growing up racist. As soon as I brought a picture up on our Smart Board to go along with our lesson on Indigenous People's Day, one of my students proclaimed how mean and scary Indians were. Instead of running away from this comment we discussed why he felt that way and continued the lesson by honoring and leaning true history about Indigenous people. Children by the age of 5 already carry with them implicit biases, so it is our duty to teach accurate history. It is a necessity to inform children of the inequalities of BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color), but we also must teach of the

joy and successes.



(source; prettygooddesign.org)

I want you to think about what your education painted a picture of for a moment. Was it of predominately white men being portrayed as the hero? Was Thanksgiving a joyous occasion full of laughs and food? Was Christopher Columbus a man who discovered America and not one who raped and murdered? At the odd moment you learned about Black people in history, what was portrayed? For me, it was about their pain and trauma that they had to overcome, but never about their joy. Children need to see Black joy. Children need to be taught about Black success and triumphs, not just their tribulations. I teach white children because I want to offer them these experiences. I want them going into the world believing with their whole being that Black lives are important. I want them understanding systemic racism and how they can challenge our systems. I want them to know why it's important to use their privilege and stand up for what is right even when it is uncomfortable to do so. Because our discomfort is nothing in comparison to death. White feelings can get hurt if it means we are saving lives. And please know that by no means am I an expert when it comes to teaching social justice. I have, however, made major changes since I started teaching and will continue to push forward to ensure I am providing my students with the tools necessary to make a difference. I'm hoping that they'll have the courage to speak up at the dinner table. I wish for them to continue a journey of not only unpacking their privilege but turning that privilege into action. I wish for a better future and a better future means that white people need to recognize the ways in which they uphold white supremacy and then fight to dismantle it. As teachers one of our primary goals should be to create an inclusive environment in which children don't have to question whether they are accepted. And now think

of Black children in our district.

In the 2017-2018 school year, there were 430 out of school suspensions for Black children. That's 11.9% of the 3,626 Black students that attend school. In comparison 3% of white students were suspended.

Sarasota County schools decided to hire Dr. Hollie, author of Culturally Responsive and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Executive Director of The Center for Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning. Although on maternity leave, I took the time to listen into Dr. Hollie's professional development and there were a few immediate takeaways I had that I decided to express in writing to our new superintendent:

1. Of the **2,767 teachers** in Sarasota County, **126 were watching**. I do understand that team members potentially could have been watching together but given the guidelines to social distancing I would guess that many missed out. I find that unacceptable given the climate of the country right now and teachers being the ones to lead the future.
2. Of the 126 who viewed, there were many responses that were not overtly racist in nature, however there were multiple micro aggressions that took place and an array of false assumptions regarding race due to the lack of understanding by white educators.

Within a week of that training, it was decided that the district would be postponing Dr. Hollie's contract until our new superintendent could get a better understanding of the content. I am hoping that our Superintendent is working hard to listen and continue with this much needed training. Teachers had complained that Dr. Hollie insisted all white people are racist, which in fact he did not. Nonetheless, if you are reading this and immediately offended by that assumption, I want you to do a simple Google search into white fragility and sit for a moment with why this may bother you. I have been writing and calling anyone who will listen since I found out these trainings may not continue because our Black students deserve to be seen and all other students deserve the opportunity know why it's important that they are seen. Simple pleasantries and niceties are not enough.

Bridget Ziegler's lack of understanding around this topic is dangerous. Black children deserve to be treated with respect and love. White children deserve to understand how they can be allies. All children deserve to learn true history.

Kerry Plunkett

As a military spouse and educator who claims Florida as my home, the fact that this email is even needed fills me with anger. ABAR training and support for teachers and students would not be necessary if the legacy of the US was not founded in and steeped in white supremacy. As a historian, I can tell you too...that fact is not up for debate. The Founders were not

shy or secretive about their goals of creating a society that hoarded power, wealth and social capital in the hands of white wealthy men. This is FACT. As a community supposedly here to foster the best education for children, stepping away from anti racism work is not just irresponsible and ignorant...it's harmful. You are NOT making school environments where ALL children can be themselves safely and profoundly when you refuse to acknowledge BLACK LIVES MATTER. Our children deserve and DEMAND BETTER. Does Anti racism work make you uncomfortable? Brings up some feeling for you? UNPACK IT ON YOUR OWN TIME and stop letting your discomfort harm children.

From a teacher desperately demanding you do better.

Thomas and Melissa Bakondy

We are opposed to the continued mask mandate within Sarasota County Schools. We are opposed to the resolution of LGBTQ history month.

Laura Steefel-Moore and Daniel Brooks

We're writing to you as concerned Sarasota parents who fully support the inclusion of Black Lives Matter content in Sarasota County Schools curriculum. Although those opposed to anti-racist work view the training as inappropriate or partisan, their obstruction merely highlights the very real need for it.

To shy away from this content due to political pressure is to perform a disservice to both our students of color and white students in the district. It is the responsibility of *all* of us to commit to anti-racism, and in doing so, to create better learning ecosystems for our students.

There is never a convenient or easy time for children to learn about racism, but it must be a part of the curriculum. For too long, history books and civics lessons have been white-washed, biased, and/or overtly racist. Refusing to teach about the BLM movement falls into this troubling history. Our students deserve better. They deserve a complete and honest audit of our nation's history of racism. As parents, we want our child to learn this, not because we hate our country but because we want our children to understand how far we've come, and, more importantly, how far we still need to go.

Racial inequities in our society are glaring from housing to employment to maternal health outcomes to inherited wealth and more. If we want a better future and a better America, then our future leaders need to understand the structural causes that perpetuate this unequal system. Our toddler will be entering Sarasota County Schools in a few years, and we hope we can count on the school board to ensure that she is given a

comprehensive and honest account of racism in our county, which includes teaching about the Black Lives Matter movement's efforts to stand against racism.

Sarah Newfield

I am a ESE/ELA teacher at HCMS and am in favor of mask wearing throughout our District. Therefore, I request that the SCSB maintain their mask-on policy as voted on last month for the duration of the 20-21 school year.

Thank you for your diligent leadership in keeping our schools safe.

-

Nina C.

Due to the horrifying murders of innocent black Americans I feel it is imperative to include education on black lives matter.

It is scary to live in a world where humans can literally get away with murder because of fear and/or a badge. We must do our part in educating teachers and students that all humans are created equal and should be treated with the same love and respect.

For those that get confused of why it is “black” and not “all” lives matter — that is why we need education on it! It’s not mutually exclusive. It would be like saying “all days matter” on July 4th.

For those that want to hold on to their privilege or claim to have “never cared” about race till now, education is needed!! We are only as good as our weakest link! Let’s all rise together and ensure safety for ALL people.

For people who are suffering or whose families have suffered, let’s give them hope, liberty, and justice as we know it.

I pledge allegiance to freedom, liberty, and justice for all and that is why we must teach the true meaning of black lives matter in school.

Lisa Daley Cavener

I urge the board to keep the mask mandate in schools. As a teacher, I will not feel comfortable

I also urge the board to rethink their position opposing Black Lives Matter education in schools.

Sonja Shea

I am writing to you as a concerned Sarasota citizen. In truth I am much more than concerned: I am frightened, angered, and confused. I recently watched the September 15th school board meeting and was truly shocked by the behavior some of the parents expressed concerning Covid precautions and masks, as well as the racial epidemic this country is currently fighting. I cried watching the brave students stand up and speak eloquently about their personal experiences and how micro and macroaggressions are occurring in our county schools today. I was appalled by the adults in the room, the parents, who stood up and essentially victim shamed and blamed, gaslighting each of those children's experiences. The racism, white privilege, and white fragility that was exposed was both unnerving and disappointing yet proved the importance of diversity training needed for both teachers and students in our education system. It is essential! Racism is alive and well. It is living and growing in the halls of our schools. *The greatest trick Racism has ever played is it convinced the world it does not exist.* I watched, horrified, as parent after parent dismissed the first hand student accounts and viciously attacked the Black Lives Matter movement along with diversity and inclusion training and education in schools. I have also discovered that school board member Bridget Ziegler has taken this same position against the Black Lives Matter movement. On September 14, she posted a video about Black Lives Matter and the Civil Rights Movement from BrainPop saying, "Our job is to educate, not indoctrinate," said Ziegler, referring to the movement to end violence against Black people in America. Now Ziegler is trying to find out which teachers used the BrainPop video, and looking into the company's contract with the school district. The truth is Ziegler and the parents that spoke out so ardently against education on racism are the true indoctrinators that we should fear. The mythology of meritocracy, individualism, and white supremacy are what are children and students are being indoctrinated into through the systemic racism that permeates every institution in this country, including our school system.

As student Nora Mitchell said "Learning about the Black Lives Matter movement is extremely empowering for all students, but especially students of color."

I stand with Nora and the other students who spoke out and I am writing to you to encourage your support of racial bias training and education for Sarasota students and teachers. I plead with you to being the hard work of de-colonizing school curriculum and invite you to turn to sources such as the 1619 project to begin the process of creating an anti-racist learning environment in our schools. Take the first step by ensuring that Ziegler and other racially biased parents, teachers, and community members do not remove such an important social movement from our students'

educational experiences. Black history has been hidden and manipulated for too long! It must stop now.

These children are bombarded with racist images on social media and television daily, providing them with a safe space to speak about their personal experiences, a social and historical context surrounding the current racial climate, and an equitable environment where diversity is embraced and inclusion is a top priority is essential for their growth as individuals and the health of our country.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I hope that you will take my words and the students experiences into consideration.

Jeff N. Eckert

My name is Jeff Nguyen Eckert, I am an attorney, former teacher, and social worker.

It is hard to believe this even needs to be said, but educating students about Black Lives Matter will not harm students. To call teaching about the Black Lives Matter movement indoctrination, ignores both the vast historical record and what our own eyes have witnessed through recurring video footage of excessive use of force against Black Americans in their cars, in their neighborhoods, and in their own homes. In the prescient words of Frederick Douglass, the former statesman and former slave, on empowering youth, "It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

Skilled teachers know the importance of context in storytelling and factual narratives. The Black Lives Matter movement did not appear in a vacuum but is the natural reaction to current events that can only be understood within the context of America's history.

The history of America's slave trade and indentured servitude has left a deep and lasting scar on our nation's psyche. Chattel slavery left families destitute, and denied Black Americans the benefits and privileges of American society writ large. While it is easy to blame ignorance and bigotry, the injustice and violence was codified by the laws and ordinances of those times and justified by the Supreme Court of our land, from *Dred Scott* to *Plessy v. Ferguson*.

The present state of America's racial inequity is untenable. Discrimination against Black Americans has been ongoing and relentless, infecting every facet of our society. From redlining and discriminatory practices in lending to scarce resource allocation in Black neighborhoods and schools. From the school to prison pipeline to the mass incarceration of Black men. The right of people to peaceably assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances is enshrined in our Constitution and part of a broader understanding of the civic rights and responsibilities our students will inherit.

The future of America and its promise is realized only when those who have been historically left behind are brought forward. We would not tolerate police brutality in our predominantly white, middle, and upper class neighborhoods. It is unacceptable to turn our backs on our fellow citizens who fear jogging, hiking, or driving while black. Studies have shown that reading fiction increases empathy and encourages understanding of different viewpoints. For many students, learning about Black Americans' struggles and achievements provides a window into lives they may not interact with on a daily basis. This increases empathy because it dissipates fear of others.

It also prepares students to enter a workforce, military, and postsecondary that is increasingly diverse and demanding of cultural competency.

Allowing students to learn about the Black Lives Matter movement will not harm students.

Let us build strong children, rather than repair broken men.

Gabrielle Connor

When I moved to Sarasota from Memphis at just 15-years-old, it was an absolute culture shock for me. As a biracial woman, growing up in a diverse city like Memphis was nothing less than beneficial. I had teachers and peers making up a variety of racial and cultural backgrounds. I don't think I fully understood the impact that diversity had on my development until I moved to Sarasota from Memphis and began attending Booker High School.

While the experiences I had at Booker High School were overwhelmingly positive, I'd like to share some of the racist comments/microaggressions that I endured on a regular basis by my peers. At a football game, a friend and classmate yelled at the football players "Pretend they have fried chicken in the end zone and food stamps!" I received social media messages on my Facebook wall from peers that said "Truth is, you're pretty cool for a Black person, I guess." Two classmates (who routinely made anti-semitic statements) and I went to Target and they thought it would be funny to move a copy of the movie "Schindler's List" to the "Comedy Section." Another classmate of mine routinely ridiculed a Jewish classmate at the school, calling her a "Greedy Jew." Prior to moving to Sarasota and attending a Sarasota County School, I had never experienced my peers making comments about Black people in this way and I had NEVER experienced so much anti-semitism in my life until I moved to the state of Florida and became engaged with my peers at Booker High School. This was happening in Sarasota County Schools just eight years ago.

The Sarasota County School Board undoubtedly has an obligation to protect ALL students across the county — especially those who have to deal with unchecked statements like these. What does the Sarasota County

School Board do about it? Because simply stating that “our job is to educate, not indoctrinate” is not going to cut it.

Shirley Bascom

The video is well done, a clear-cut and sensitive presentation of the events in our country regarding racism.

Not being able to concede that white supremacy is not working anymore, some people are hampering the children from being taught history and current events. Remember how many years our history books suppressed the information about the role the U.S played in the treatment of Black citizens, Native Americans, the Japanese/Americans in WWII, the knowledge of the savagery of Nazism, etc.? Systemic racism is real. The sooner all Americans understand and accept this, the sooner this country will experience peace and security. Or in the words of our founders, a “more perfect union.” We should hope and pray that the children will seek as many unbiased sources of news and history as possible and form their own opinions based on factual information. They will become the leaders in a country that practices justice, dignity and respect for all.

Robin Clark

Students are taught mathematics, science and American history because it is important. Black history, which focuses on the contributions that African Americans made in the past and continue to make, is also important and should be taught in schools all year round. Not just in February.

When children learn these lessons at school, they go home and share what they learn with their parents. This benefits society as a whole because it means that the issue of race will be talked about in more homes across the United States. Conversations about race are important because things cannot change and get better without conversations.

When students learn that African Americans have contributed positively to society, education, science, art, law and medicine, it gives them an appreciation for African Americans currently living in the United States. When children study black history in school, they and their parents are both exposed to the fact that African Americans don’t just take from the United States, but also give and give good, wonderful and necessary things. Black history teaches students *and* their parents by teaching them about the contributions of African Americans to the United States.

Learning about black history is good for *all* students, not just African American students. It helps end racism; it helps students and parents; it gives a full and honest view of African Americans and it helps fight

xenophobic views. These things benefit all students and makes schools a place where all children can feel valued, appreciated and safe. This is extremely important because educators know, and have known for many years, that it is hard for children to learn when they feel undervalued, unimportant and unsafe. Teaching black history benefits students — not just during Black History Month, but all year long.

Zippy Duda

It is clear from some of the public comments that a few “parents” have orchestrated misinformation about ‘Black lives’ education and teaching truth in schools. Motivated by fearmongering and through a private Facebook post from a Sarasota County School Board member they have exaggerated the content as a “Black Lives Matter” movement and warped it into “Critical Race Theory”. The Brain pop video about ‘black lives’, (who do exist as our students), that is a current, truthful, and socially relevant item about race history, discrimination, and social injustice that is happening today within our nation and across the world, has been harshly criticized as “indoctrination”. As a parent, teacher, and tax paying citizen, I object to the racist and bigoted views being pushed by a school board member.

Please listen and hear your students; please see your students; please empathize with your students' needs and emotions, and please stand up for your students. The student petition asking for relevant education about race history, discrimination, civil rights, and current events – the SARASOTA STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE petition on change.org has over 1,150 signatures as of noon today, and growing

Clearly this outnumbers those few commentators (submitting in multiple posts, and copy paste text that repeats the exact words in each post) who have falsely labelled diversity training as “communism” and “critical race theory”, and would rather allow race, lgbtq, and sexual harassment education to be banned from the SCSB curriculum than to teach the truth and allow students to develop into fair minded, productive, inclusive citizens in our community.

Our students deserve better than that. Our students deserve better than to be kept in the dark about current events and systematic injustice that affects their lives today and tomorrow, and the lives of their families and ancestors, and the lives of every student, just because a bigoted post by one school board member and a few parents assuming they represent all of us – they don’t.

Prejudice, discrimination, injustice, and hate should not be tolerated, but should be addressed in appropriate education settings and curriculum and students should be taught about their hard-won civil rights. All students regardless of their diversity and differences should be taught that all

students, indeed all people, should be treated with dignity and respect, that they are valued, and that they matter. At this time and in this school district – it is not wrong to declare ‘BLACK LIVES MATTER’.

Sheila Siegel

Mom of 5th Grade Student in the Fruitville Elementary Gifted Program

My name is Sheila Siegel. I am a mother of a 5th grade student who is in the gifted program at Fruitville Elementary. We love Fruitville and have generally been very happy with Sarasota County Schools. However, I am extremely disappointed in the county's discourse around, and censorship of, Black Lives Matter in our county schools.

Black Lives Matter is not a political statement. Black lives DO matter. We should all say it. Black lives matter. If you are a Black resident in this county - you matter. If you are a Black student in this school system - you matter. We should be affirming this everyday. We should be working to improve the systems that continue to treat Black people - our neighbors and fellow citizens - as less than equal. Race in this country, and much of the world, has played a role in everything from housing availability, banking options, our criminal justice system, the history we learn - or don't learn - and yes race has played a role in education. How can you teach about the history of this country without teaching about race? We do a disservice to our children when we fail to educate them about our true history and what is actually happening in current events. The *BrainPOP* video does an excellent job of educating students about the history of racism in this country and the current Black Lives Matter movement. I strongly support teachers using this as a teaching tool. It shouldn't even be a question.

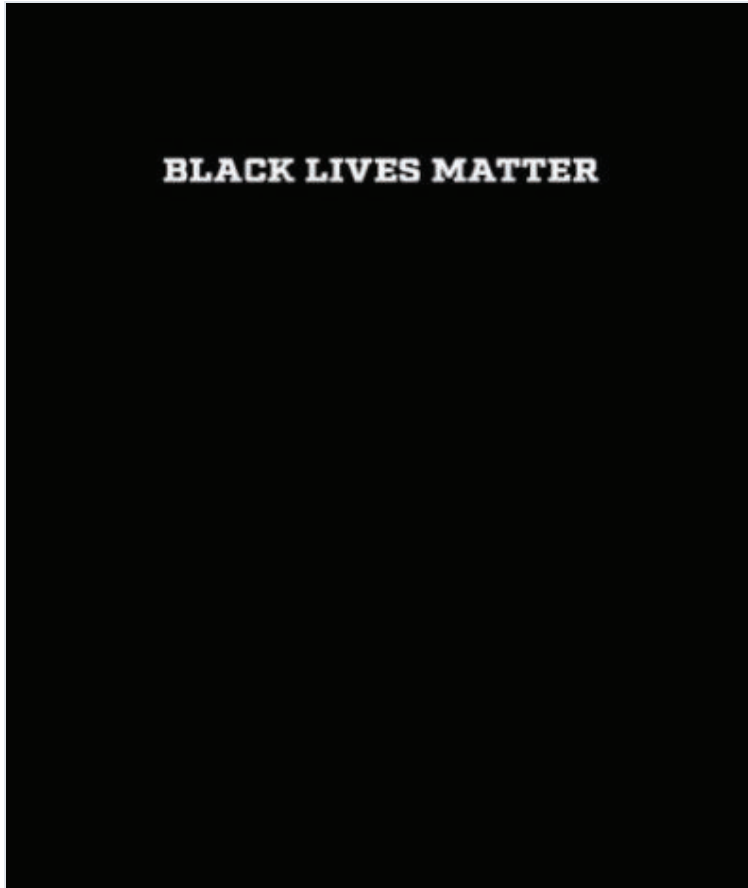
Black Lives Matter is not political. It is specifically a non-political movement. It is a movement that started because our society repeatedly shows that Black people are treated differently than white people. It is not a violent movement. Our local Black Lives Matter chapter is run primarily by women, many moms, who are working to bring our community together. They hold school supply drives to make supplies and backpacks available to students of any color who need it. They are working on expanding the books available to people in areas who have less access to reading materials. And yes they sometimes organize events - peaceful events - because other people still, in 2020, insist on telling Black people that they don't matter. We should all support this work.

We are better than this. We should be supporting our students and our neighbors and working to show that Black Lives Matter. I know you must believe this in your heart.

Attached below my signature please find two videos - one by Duke Basketball Coach Mike Krzyzewski, and one by the anti-racist educator Jane

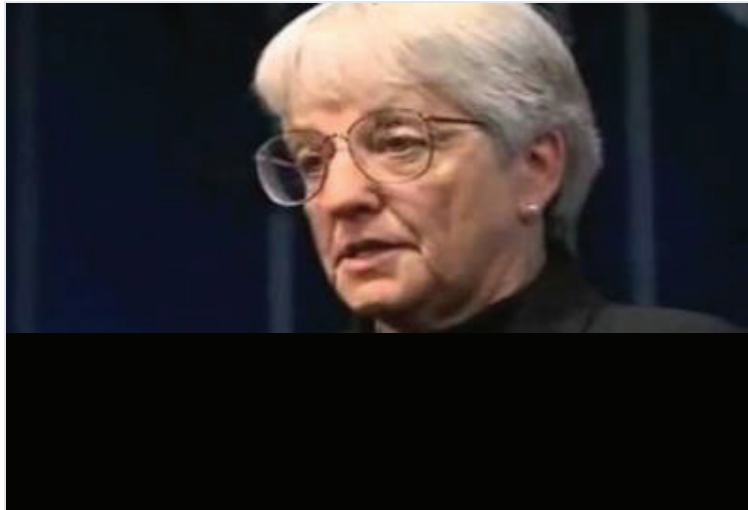
Elliot. Please take a moment to watch - they are short. Thank you.

Duke Basketball Coach Mike Krzyzewski on
Black Lives Matter



 **Black Lives Matter**

Speaks Volumes Anti Racism Activist & Educator Jane Elliot Speaks To
White Citizens On Receiving





Speaks Volumes Anti Racism Activist & Educator Jane Elliot Speaks To Whi...

Carol M. Lerner

Support Sarasota Students Demands on Black Lives Matter

Protect Our Public Schools (POPS) Manasota stands with the hundreds of Sarasota Public School students who have signed a petition stating that the Black Lives Matter movement should be taught in Sarasota schools. The students correctly make the argument that the failure to include the history of the Black Lives Matter movement in the curriculum “invalidates the struggle of black people and further perpetuates racism in schools.”

The fact of the matter is that there is systemic racism in all of our institutions, including our schools. Black Lives Matter is a movement of young people of color who are taking the Civil Rights movement to the next step of eliminating systemic racism. Remember, the heroes of the earlier civil rights movement, including Martin Luther King, were at the time vilified as “Communists” and “left-wing radicals.” Today we celebrate a holiday for MLK on the third Monday of January.

Let’s make the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement a teachable moment. The BrainPop video is a vehicle to generate discussion on a topic of great relevance today. Our schools, as centers of learning and critical thinking need the academic freedom to discuss issues of racism and movements like Black Lives Matter without fear of retaliation and censorship. Making these topics off-limits is the wrong way to go.

POPS strongly recommends that Superintendent Asplen and the Sarasota School Board open up a dialogue with Sarasota students and move forward with a joint plan to address the concerns raised in their petition. That is a good first step in working towards cultural sensitivity and racial equality.

Eric Garduno

As a parent to two children in Sarasota County Schools, I support the face mask requirement for all children, staff, and visitors on school grounds. Based on available scientific knowledge, this approach is key in stemming the spread of COVID-19 and is a critical ingredient to keeping schools open. Please extend this requirement through the end of the school year.

Robin Williams

As a retired biology teacher every year when teaching evolution or teaching climate change there would be a few students who said they didn't "believe in" that. Science is not a matter of belief but rather of facts and consistently supported hypotheses. While it can be argued that social studies is a soft science, there is still a body of factual information dealing with groups of people and events. To censor exposure to the realities of our world today is a slippery slope and harkens back to some of the darkest times in the 19th and 20th centuries, when learning was forbidden to enslaved people, when the Nazis burned books and used propaganda against Jews and people who opposed their policies, the McCarthy era when those defending political freedoms were branded Communists and lost their jobs, the Civil Rights era when those standing up for basic freedoms were murdered and assaulted, and the Vietnam War era when once again people who opposed the war were branded communists and socialists. An effective social studies teacher exposes students to important current events. Students do have the ability to offer different viewpoints while respecting factual information. Good teaching allows for respectful disagreement but respect and real information from reliable sources are key. Censorship is a threat to democracy. Labeling people who disagree with you as radicals, communists, Marxists and the like is a way to censor real education and has no place in an educational institution that values creativity and independent thinking. Our superintendent and school board have my support in fostering a creative learning environment without censorship of thoughtful video materials like the BrainPop on Black Lives Matter.

Erin Clay

As a parent of school-aged children in Sarasota County Schools, I urge members of the school board to allow factual, age appropriate, unbiased

information--as found in the BrainPop video featuring information about the Black Lives Matter movement, to be a part of our students' public education. For far too long, our public education has provided a white-washed view of our country's history and current events, choosing to leave out and minimize the perspectives, voices, and experiences of Black Americans. I urge you to take bold steps towards making Sarasota County more equitable and inclusive, not less. As those deciding what our youngest citizens have the opportunity to learn and be challenged about, you have an enormous role to play in this. The idea that the lives of Black Americans matter and should be protected, including lives of students and families in Sarasota County, should not be political-- it is basic respect of human life, dignity, and equality. Families and parents who choose to politicize these fundamental values and facts regarding our country's unjust treatment of Black Americans can make a choice to remove their children from public education.

Hilda Canes Garduno

As a parent of two public elementary school students, I urge you to keep a mandatory mask policy in place at Sarasota County Schools. Masks are among the few tools we have at our disposal to protect our public health and should be required until such time as an effective vaccine is available to the public at large.

Queen Meccasia Zabriskie, Ph.D.

I am writing in response to the School Board and Superintendent's opposition to teaching about the history of the Black Lives Matter Movement in the schools. I watched the Brain Pop video that caused this most recent action by the district's leadership and was deeply concerned that a video which provides important history and context for the contemporary social protests for students would be censored. The Black Lives Matter Movement is our contemporary movement for racial justice and civil rights. As the video shows, it builds on an important legacy of citizens of all races exercising their right to come together to make our country better and challenge white supremacy, racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression. The district should want to provide resources to help students make sense of what they are seeing and experiencing in the contemporary moment. Instead, this is one of series of steps that compromise the ability of students and teachers to navigate the contemporary moment, create an inclusive learning environment, embrace cultural differences, and ensure that all students get an equitable education. Moreover, the response of some of the district's leadership to this video, as well as the cultural sensitivity training, send a message that this district is not going to equally fight for the success of all of its students.

It sends the message that the district is a place that will not take a clear and decisive stance against white supremacy and affirm the EQUAL value of the lives of the black children that it educates. As a black mother raising a young black boy, the actions of some of the members of board and administration do not make me feel confident that my son will receive a high quality education in the district. I know a number of amazing, hardworking educators in the district who fight every day to make sure that all of their students receive a high quality education. However, when the district implements policies that marginalizes the history and contemporary reality of its black students and censors the voices of those simply saying that black lives matter as much as other lives, these educators have to work twice as hard and face an arduous uphill battle because of the context in which they work. This is a moment for dialogue. The leaders in the district need to take the stance that many others in this country are taking and affirm the equal value of black lives and the education of their black students. Then the board and district leaders need to enact the necessary policies to support that stance.

Savanah Knechel

One of the positives I saw from the pandemic was the chance to live in Sarasota and potential teacher here post-pandemic. However, seeing the negative reactions of conservative parents who happen to be quite vocal about BLM x LGBTQ+ pride being included in the curriculum is discouraging. Especially since the parents "speaking out" are involved in groups like "Sarasota Patriots" and "West Coast FL Conservatives" (known also for discussing forming a militia and using Payne Park as a shooting range). They shouldn't be the ones deciding what students learn and how teachers are trained. I would love to teach for the district but I fear because I'm LGBTQ+ and support BLM I would be fired because of these right wing extremists.

Cody Summerall

I watched the September 15th school board meeting and was shocked by the behavior of some of the parents expressing their concerns about Covid precautions and masks, as well as the racial epidemic this country is currently fighting. The brave students that stood up and spoke about their personal experiences and aggressions that are occurring in our county schools, were amazing. On the other hand, the "adults" in the room stood up and victim shamed and blamed, gaslighting each of those children's experiences. The racism and white privilege that was exposed was both unnerving and disturbing. This simply showed the importance of diversity training needed for both teachers and students in our education system. The greatest trick Racism has ever played is it convinced the world it does

not exist.

Nora Mitchell, a local student, said it best “Learning about the Black Lives Matter movement is extremely empowering for all students, but especially students of color.”

I hope the board stands with Nora and the other students who spoke out. This is a call for your support of racial bias training and education for Sarasota students and teachers.

Gretchen Lovewell

As a mother of a 5th grader, I wanted to voice my strong support for keeping brain pop as an important supplemental educational tool for our children. As the wife of an educator, I want to encourage the board to enhance cultural sensitivity and racial-bias training for our educators and staff, not get rid of it simply because some of these conversations can be hard or uncomfortable. In 2018, the American Medical Association’s scientific journal on pediatrics published a study showing that the suicide rates for black children age 5-12 are two times higher than their counterparts. LGBTQ teens are nearly 3 times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers. At the last meeting, many brave young people came before you and shared their personal stories about being harassed and bullied because of their race or their religion. Pain they have suffered their entire academic career in Sarasota County Public Schools. We also saw a number of angry white parents and even board members claiming that teaching a full version of history and current event, and yes even uttering the simple statement that black lives matter is some form of indoctrination. I’m left to wonder if these people really understand the meaning of the word. Indoctrination means to teach a person or group to accept a set of beliefs uncritically. Teaching inclusion and the simple notion that all lives can’t matter until black lives matter is not indoctrination. Our educators are teaching our children to think critically about history and current events. Indoctrination is the white-washed version of history that has been taught for decades. The version that includes Christopher Columbus “discovery of American” and not the slaughter that occurred on Black Wall Street in Tulsa, a version that glorifies the pilgrims, but forgets that we stand on land that was stolen from Native Americans and built by enslaved people. Equal right and inclusion for everyone does not mean less for you. It’s not pie. But teaching it could very well save a young person’s life. It could make all of us think a bit more critically and empathically about the advantages that come with white privilege, about what other people have and are going through,. But as long as there are students in our public school that feel like the brave young people that addressed you earlier, we have failed as parents, as educators, and as a

community. We can and we must do better. If you don't think there is a place in the public school system for such teachings, I'm sure Ms. Zeigler or Mr. Robinson can recommend the private schools their own children attend, but for our public schools, please check your white privilege and fragility and ensure that ALL students feel represented equally. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Julie Bentley

I strongly feel that the students should be informed (taught) about the BLM movement and other historical movements in world or American history.

You can also inform the students of opposing views about every historical event. I think it is important to inform the students as to the reasoning for opposing views.

The same reasoning applies to the holocaust. Teach the students about people's accounting of events then teach them that some people deny that the holocaust ever happened. Children are bright and intuitively can figure out what is truth and what is fiction. Teach students the motivation behind each group believing or denying events.

Caprill Hembree

While I have sent several emails in the past with my concerns about our school district - and received incredibly negative feedback from three board members I still believe it is my responsibility to send my concerns to this board.

I believe that Black Lives Matter is not teaching curriculum it is teaching political propaganda. I think it is very important that in the lower education levels and venues (prior to college) propaganda not be introduced to our children. I believe strongly that black lives matter but that is with a lowercase blm. I believe that there are many extremely valuable lessons our students can be taught without including uppercase BLM curriculum in our schools.

Approval of Corrections to Consent Agenda

6. APPROVAL OF CORRECTIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA

Description

N/A

Recommendation

N/A

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

ASPLEN

The following changes were made to the agenda after its publication:

-

Item #9 - An addendum was added to the Instructional/Classified Personnel Report.

Item #13 - The Florida Blue contract for the agenda item was added. (Approval of the contract with Florida Blue beginning January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2024).

Approval of Consent Agenda

7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Description

N/A

Recommendation

That the Consent Agenda be approved, as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

ASPLEN

Jody Dumas spoke regarding Item #32 - *Approval of Amendment #1 to Architect's Contract for the Booker High School Visual Performing Arts (VPA) Theatre Renovation.*

Motion: (Roll Call Vote)

That the amended Consent Agenda be approved, as presented.

MOTION Passed

Vote Results:

Ayes: Brown, Goodwin, Robinson, Ziegler, Zucker

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Description

Recommendation

That the minutes be approved, as presented.

Financial Impact:

Contact:

ASPLEN

Approval of Instructional/Classified Personnel Report

9. APPROVAL OF INSTRUCTIONAL/CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL REPORT

Description

Recommendation

That the Instructional/Classified Personnel Report be approved, as presented.

Financial Impact:

Contact:

General Items

10. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS IN OCTOBER AS DISABILITY HISTORY AND AWARENESS WEEKS

Description

The first two weeks of October are designated as Disability History and Awareness Weeks. Section 1003.4205, Florida Statutes entitled Disability History and Awareness Instruction, was signed into law in 2008. It requires school districts to designate the first two weeks of October as Disability History and Awareness Weeks and also promotes providing instruction for students in all public schools to expand student knowledge, understanding and awareness of individuals with disabilities, disability history and the disability rights movement.

Recommendation

That the School Board approve the resolution designating the first two weeks in October as disability history and awareness weeks, as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS

11. APPROVAL OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ADD-ON ENDORSEMENT

Description

The purpose of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Endorsement program is to provide an alternative training program to reduce the number of out-of-field teachers in the area of K-12 students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and to develop a pool of qualified and fully endorsed teachers with this specialized focus. The option of completing the Autism Spectrum Disorder Endorsement program is available for teachers in lieu of taking online courses made available through limited university options.

Recommendation

That the Autism Spectrum Disorder Add-on Endorsement program be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & CANTALUPO

12. APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH HEALTHCARE BLUEBOOK BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023

Description

Healthcare Bluebook is a cost transparency vendor utilize data to assist medical plan members to make better healthcare decisions for certain services and common outpatient procedures. Healthcare Bluebook utilizes online healthcare shopping solutions to allow members to find high-quality, cost effective facilities and physicians to facilitate better decisions for healthcare management. The district would engage in the rewards program, thereby providing members with an incentive if they select and schedule their care with high quality and cost effective provider. The district would like to enter into a contract with Healthcare Bluebook via a "Cooperative Contract" with the State of Florida. Healthcare Bluebook was awarded the contract with the State of Florida on August 10, 2018 and the contract runs through June 30, 2021. The cost of the program is \$1.90 Per Subscriber Per Month and a one-time set up and implementation cost of \$20,767.

Recommendation

That the Board approve the Healthcare Bluebook contract effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023.

Financial Impact:

\$1.90 Per Subscriber Per Month plus one-time set up/implementation charge of \$20,767

Contact:

DUMAS & PETERSON

13. APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH FLORIDA BLUE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024

Description

The Florida Blue contract for medical claims administration services is set to expire on December 31, 2020. The District will "piggyback" Monroe County Schools contract with added favorable language and negotiated rates applicable to Sarasota. The new contract continues to provide an annual wellness contribution of \$120,000. New to this contract is a \$40,000 audit allowance for each year 2022 and 2024. The rate for January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022 will remain the same as the current rate of \$44.07 per subscriber per month (PSPM). The rate for January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024 will increase to \$45.33 per subscriber per month. This a 2.86% increase. The fee includes medical claims administration, stop loss reporting, on-site representative, medical COBRA,

Better You Program, Teladoc (\$.90 PSPM), fiduciary fee (\$1.00 PSPM) and a credit for placing coverage with Florida Blue HMIG stop loss (\$.50 PSPM).

Recommendation

That the Board approve the Florida Blue contract effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024.

Financial Impact:

\$44.07 Per Subscriber Per Month January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022 and \$45.33 Per Subscriber Per Month January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Contact:

DUMAS & PETERSON

Agreement/Contracts

14. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN EPIC, DR. JANETTA TWERELL AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Description

This is an annual contract for the external evaluator for ACCISS to administer evaluation measurements, collect and analyze data, and provide interim and annual reports with actionable recommendations and findings for September 2020 to June 2021 as outlined in the formal grant award.

Recommendation

That the contract between EPIC, Dr. Janetta Twerell and the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida be approved.

Financial Impact:

Not to exceed \$29,250

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS

15. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BROTHERHOOD OF MEN MENTORING GROUP, INC. AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Description

Brotherhood of Men Mentoring Group, Inc. will provide mentoring and life skills services for Sarasota County district children.

Recommendation

That the agreement between Brotherhood of Men Mentoring Group, Inc. and The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS/GIACOLONE

16. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CENTERSTONE OF FLORIDA, INC. AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Description

Centerstone of Florida, Inc. will provide in-school therapy services for Sarasota County district children identified by school administration.

Recommendation

That the agreement between Centerstone of Florida, Inc. and The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS/GIACOLONE

17. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMELOT COMMUNITY CARE, INC. AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Description

Camelot Community Care, Inc. will provide in-school therapy services for Sarasota County district children identified by school administration.

Recommendation

That the agreement between Camelot Community Care, Inc. and The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS/GIACOLONE

18. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CALVIN COLLINS AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Description

Calvin Collins will provide prevention services for Sarasota County district children who also access care with Calvin Collins.

Recommendation

That the agreement between Calvin Collins and The School Board of

Sarasota County, Florida be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS/GIACOLONE

19. APPROVAL OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PLAN BETWEEN THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Description

Florida Statute requires each local county health department (CHD) to develop, jointly with the school district and school health advisory committee, a School Health Services Plan that outlines the provisions and responsibilities to provide mandated health services in all public schools. Florida Administrative Code Rule 64F-6.002 (F.A.C.) requires the plan to be completed biennially.

Recommendation

That the 2020-2022 School Health Services Plan between the Florida Department of Health and the School Board of Sarasota County, Florida be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & FIGAREDO-ALBERTS/DUBOSE

20. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUDI OF AMERICA, INC AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FL

Description

The Audi Education Partnership Program helps meet the growing and predicted future demand for auto dealership technicians. The purpose of the Program is to attract skilled technicians to Audi brand dealerships in Sarasota and surrounding area by enhancing the automotive program with curriculum and training resources through local partnerships.

Recommendation

That the Audi Education Partnership Program Agreement between Audi of America, Inc and the School Board of Sarasota County, FL be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

KINGSLEY & DIPILLO

Materials Management

21. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE MATERIALS AND/OR SERVICES (PER THE ATTACHED LIST) FROM VENDORS UNDER CONTRACT WITH A FEDERAL, STATE OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, OR A COOPERATIVE WITH A LEAD AGENCY THAT UTILIZED A COMPETITIVE PROCESS

Description

The Purchasing Department has researched and reviewed the competitive solicitations that are available for these purchases and has determined that the use of the attached contracts for the purpose cited presents the best value and/or is in the best interest of the School Board.

The funds for these purchases are contained in the budgets allocated to the appropriate departments and schools.

Recommendation

That the attached list of contracts for the anticipated purchase of materials and/or services, be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

See attached itemized document

Contact:

CORCORAN & BRIZENDINE

22. APPROVAL OF 2019-2020 DATA COLLECTION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Description

In accordance with Florida Statue 1008.385, the report of the activities of the Data Collection Review Committee is presented. The goal of the committee is to review and approve all district forms and achieve standardization.

Recommendation

That the 2019-2020 Data Collection Review Committee Report be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

CORCORAN & BRIZENDINE

23. APPROVAL TO REJECT BID #21-0100 FOR DRIVERS ED/ TRAFFIC SAFETY TRAINING

Description

Bids to provide 'Drivers Ed/Traffic Safety Training' were received from two vendors on September 9, 2020. It is requested that all bids be rejected for unclear specifications and bid form. The specifications and bid form will be revised and the bid will be re-issued.

Recommendation

That the bids to provide Drivers Ed/Traffic Safety Training be rejected.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

CORCORAN & BRIZENDINE

24. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE MATERIALS AND/OR SERVICES (PER THE ATTACHED LIST) THROUGH PIGGYBACK CONTRACTING FROM VENDORS UNDER CONTRACT WITH A FEDERAL, STATE OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, OR A COOPERATIVE WITH A LEAD AGENCY THAT UTILIZED A COMPETITIVE PROCESS

Description

Piggybacking is the post-award use of a contractual document or process that allows an entity that was not contemplated in the original procurement to purchase the same supplies, equipment or services through that original document or process. The School Board of Sarasota County Policy 7.70 Purchasing and Bidding allows for this process subject to the provisions of law.

The Purchasing Department has researched and reviewed the competitive solicitations that are available for these purchases and has determined that the use of the attached contracts for the purpose cited presents the best value and/or is in the best interest of the School Board.

The funds for these purchases are contained in the budgets allocated to the appropriate departments and schools.

Recommendation

That the attached list of contracts for the anticipated purchase of materials and/or services, using the piggyback contracting process, be approved as

presented.

Financial Impact:

\$75,000.00

Contact:

CORCORAN & BRIZENDINE

25. APPROVAL TO INCREASE THE PURCHASING LIMIT FOR TANK PUMPING & HYDRO-JETTING SERVICE – BID #18-0119

Description

The bid #18-0119 for 'Tank Pumping & Hydro-Jetting Service' was approved for award on March 6, 2018 to Blue Septic Tank Service, Inc. Facilities Services Department is requesting an increase of the purchasing limit of this bid by an additional \$50,000.00. The funds for these purchases are contained in the budget allocated to Facilities Services Department.

Recommendation

That the request to increase the purchasing limit for 'Tank Pumping & Hydro-Jetting Service' by an additional \$50,000.00, be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

Not to Exceed: \$50,000.00

Contact:

CORCORAN & BRIZENDINE

Facilities

26. ACCEPTANCE OF FACILITIES SERVICES' PROJECT COMPLETION AND APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PAYMENT TO CONTRACTOR FOR THE FRUITVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS AND FENCING (DESIGN & PRECONSTRUCTION) CONTRACT

Description

The final project costs have been internally audited and are enclosed herein the final payment application #07 to the contractor for approval. The Acting Director of Facilities Services' has determined that the project is complete in accordance with state statutes. Certificate of final completion is not needed since this is a preconstruction contract.

Recommendation

That the project be accepted as complete and the final payment to contractor be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

DUMAS & HAMPTON

27. ACCEPTANCE OF FACILITIES SERVICES' PROJECT COMPLETION AND APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PAYMENT TO THE CONTRACTOR AND THE CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION FOR THE FRUITVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS AND FENCING (CONSTRUCTION) CONTRACT

Description

All work has been completed and all required close-out documents have been received from the contractor. The final project costs have been internally audited and are enclosed herein the final payment application #06 to the contractor for approval. The Acting Director of Facilities Services has determined that the project is complete in accordance with state statutes.

Recommendation

That the project be accepted as complete and the final payment and certificate of substantial be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

DUMAS & HAMPTON

28. APPROVAL AND/OR RATIFICATION OF FACILITIES SERVICES' CHANGE ORDERS

Description

The Facilities Services' change orders are summarized on the enclosure for ease of review. These change orders collectively total a decrease of (\$24,736.65) in gross contract dollars.

(\$1,946.65) will go back into project 5500, (\$444.00) will go back into projects 3670 & 4014, (\$117.00) will go back into project 3670 and (\$22,229.00) will go back into project 4014.

Recommendation

That the Facilities Services' change orders be approved and/or ratified as presented.

Financial Impact:

(\$24,736.65)

Contact:

DUMAS & HAMPTON

29. ACCEPTANCE OF FACILITIES SERVICES' PROJECT COMPLETION AND APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PAYMENT TO THE CONTRACTOR AND THE CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION FOR THE DISTRICT WIDE MIDDLE SCHOOLS CLASSROOM OF TOMORROW (COT) LABS 2020 LAUREL NOKOMIS SCHOOL & WOODLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL (DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION)

Description

All work has been completed and all required close-out documents have been received from the contractor. The final project costs have been internally audited and are enclosed herein the final payment application #03 to the contractor for approval. The Acting Director of Facilities Services has determined that the project is complete in accordance with state statutes.

Recommendation

That the project be accepted as complete and the final payment and certificate of substantial be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

DUMAS & HAMPTON

30. ACCEPTANCE OF FACILITIES SERVICES' PROJECT COMPLETION AND APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PAYMENT TO THE CONTRACTOR AND THE CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION FOR THE FRUITVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SECURITY INTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS (CONSTRUCTION)

Description

All work has been completed and all required close-out documents have been received from the contractor. The final project costs have been internally audited and are enclosed herein the final payment application #08 to the contractor for approval. The Acting Director of Facilities Services has determined that the project is complete in accordance with state statutes.

Recommendation

That the project be accepted as complete and the final payment and certificate of substantial be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

DUMAS & HAMPTON

Construction

31. APPROVAL AND/OR RATIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES' CHANGE ORDER

Description

The Construction Services' change order is summarized on the enclosure for ease of review. The change order is a credit in the amount of (\$225,300.00) for direct material purchases which will transfer back into project 3023, and the corresponding direct material purchase order of \$212,500.00 resulting in a net of \$12,800.00 in sales tax savings.

Recommendation

That the Construction Services' change orders be approved and/or ratified as presented.

Financial Impact:

(\$225,300.00)

Contact:

DUMAS & PITCHER

32. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #1 TO ARCHITECT'S CONTRACT FOR THE BOOKER HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS (VPA) THEATRE RENOVATION

Description

This Amendment #1 adds the Design and Construction Administration Fees necessary for Schenkel Shultz Architecture to complete all aspects of Design and Construction Administration of the entire master planned renovation and additions, as approved by The Board, to the Booker High School VPA Theater.

Recommendation

That Amendment #1 to the Agreement dated February 18, 2020, with Schenkel & Shultz, Inc., for the Booker High School Visual Performing Arts (VPA) Theatre Renovation be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

\$1,808,577.00

Contact:

DUMAS & PITCHER

Finance

33. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

Description

The attached Project Priority List included in the District's Five Year Survey requires School Board approval in order to use State Capital Outlay and Debt Service funds to pay for a portion of the Booker Middle School re-roofing project. This project and funding was included in the 2020-2021 Capital Budget approved on 9/8/2020.

Recommendation

That the Project Priority List be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

CORCORAN

School Board Rules

34. APPROVAL OF REVISED SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 7.771 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Description

The revised School Board Policy 7.771 - *Capital Assets* - has been advertised and ready for approval.

Recommendation

That the revised School Board Policy 7.771 - *Capital Assets* - be approved as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

CORCORAN & HARDY & BRIZENDINE

New Business

35. APPROVAL OF THE REVISED 2020-2021 STUDENT CALENDAR

Description

After consultation with teachers, principals, and the SCTA due to COVID-19 and the challenges of concurrent teaching, the Superintendent is recommending two additional professional development days be added to the 20/21 school calendar. The two additional days will be October 12th and November 18th.

Recommendation

That the Board approve the revised 2020-2021 student calendar as presented.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

DUMAS & SCHWIED

Motion: (Roll Call Vote)

That the Board approve the revised 2020-2021 student calendar as presented.

MOTION Passed

Vote Results:

Ayes: Brown, Goodwin, Robinson, Ziegler, Zucker

36. APPROVAL OF HANDHELD SECURITY WANDS PER SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 8.10 - SAFETY

Description

Per School Board Policy 8.10 - Safety, Section XIII, the Superintendent is requesting the use of handheld security wands on District property.

Recommendation

That the School Board approve the use of handheld security wands on District property per School Board Policy 8.10 - *Safety*.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Contact:

ASPLEN

Motion: (Roll Call Vote)

That the School Board approve the use of handheld security wands on District property per School Board Policy 8.10 - Safety.

MOTION Passed

Vote Results:

Ayes: Brown, Goodwin, Ziegler, Zucker

Nays: Robinson

Announcements/Comments

The next Monthly Work Session is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at a TBD.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 10:35 p.m.

We certify that the foregoing minutes are a true account of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 6, 2020 and approved at the Regular Board Meeting on October 20, 2020.

Brennan Asplen, Secretary

Caroline Zucker, Chair